

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
TYLER DIVISION**

BLUE SPIKE, LLC,

Plaintiff,

V.

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, INC., et al.

Defendants.

BLUE SPIKE, LLC,

Plaintiff,

V.

**MORPHOTRAK, INC. and SAFRAN USA,
INC.,**

Defendants.

§ **CIVIL ACTION NO. 6:12-CV-499 MHS** \mathcal{S} \mathcal{S}

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DEFENDANT SAFRAN USA, INC.'S ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIMS

ANSWER

Defendant Safran USA, Inc. (“Safran”), by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby answers the Original Complaint for Patent Infringement (“Complaint”) of Blue Spike, LLC (“Blue Spike” or “Plaintiff”) as follows:

Safran denies each and every allegation contained in Plaintiff's Complaint, except as specifically admitted or explained herein. To the extent that the headings or any other non-numbered statements in the Complaint contain any allegations, Safran denies each and every such allegation.

In response to the introductory paragraph on page 1 of the Complaint, no answer is required.

NATURE OF THE SUIT

1. Safran admits that the action brought by Plaintiff purports to be an action arising under the patent laws of the United States. Except as expressly admitted herein, Safran denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 1.

PARTIES

2. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 2 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

3. Safran admits that MorphoTrak, Inc. ("MorphoTrak") is a Delaware corporation, having its principal place of business at 113 South Columbus Street, 4th Floor, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Safran admits that it can be served with process through its registered agent, CT Corporation System, located at 350 N. St. Paul Street, Suite 2900, Dallas, Texas 75201. Safran admits that MorphoTrak does business in the State of Texas and in the Eastern District of Texas.

4. Safran admits that it is a Delaware Corporation, having its principal place of business at 2850 Safran Drive, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052. Safran admits that it can be served with process through its registered agent, CT Corporation System, located at 350 N. St. Paul Street, Suite 2900, Dallas, Texas 75201. Safran admits that it does business in the State of Texas. Except as expressly admitted herein, Safran denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 4.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. Safran admits that the action brought by Plaintiffs purports to be an action arising under the patent laws of the United States. Safran admits that this Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a). Except as expressly admitted herein, Safran denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 5.

6. Safran admits that it has designated an agent for service of process in the State of Texas. Safran admits that it regularly does business or solicits business in Texas. Except as expressly admitted herein, Safran denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 6.

7. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 7.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

A. Moskowitz' History

8. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 8 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

9. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 9 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

10. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 10 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

11. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 11 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

12. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 12 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

13. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 13 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

14. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 14 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

15. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 15 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

16. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 16 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

17. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 17 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

18. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 18 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

19. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 19 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

20. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the

allegations contained in paragraph 20 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

21. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 21 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

B. Patents-in-Suit

22. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 22 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

23. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 23 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

24. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 24 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

25. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 25 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

26. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 26 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

27. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraph 27 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

C. The Accused Products and Services

28. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 28.

29. Safran admits it does not have a license to Blue Spike technology nor does Safran need one.

30. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 30.

31. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 31.

COUNT 1:

INFRINGEMENT OF UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 8,214,175

32. In response to paragraph 32 of the Complaint, Safran realleges and incorporates by reference the answers stated in paragraphs 1-31 above.

33. Safran admits that the face of the '175 patent shows it is titled "Method and

Device for Monitoring and Analyzing Signals.” Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the remainder of the allegations contained in paragraph 33 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

34. Safran admits that the face of the ’175 patent shows it was issued on July 3, 2012, and that Plaintiff attached what purports to be a true and correct copy of this patent as Exhibit A to the Complaint. Except as expressly admitted herein, Safran denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 34.

35. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 35.

36. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 36.

37. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 37.

38. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 38.

39. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 39.

COUNT 2:

INFRINGEMENT OF UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 7,949,494

40. In response to paragraph 40 of the Complaint, Safran realleges and incorporates by reference the answers stated in paragraphs 1-39 above.

41. Safran admits that the face of the ’494 patent shows it is titled “Method and Device for Monitoring and Analyzing Signals.” Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the remainder of the allegations contained in paragraph 41 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

42. Safran admits that the face of the ’494 patent shows it was issued on May 24, 2011, and that Plaintiff attached what purports to be a true and correct copy of this patent as Exhibit B to the Complaint. Except as expressly admitted herein, Safran denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 42.

43. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 43.

44. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 44.

45. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 45.

46. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 46.

47. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 47.

COUNT 3:

INFRINGEMENT OF UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 7,660,700

48. In response to paragraph 48 of the Complaint, Safran realleges and incorporates by reference the answers stated in paragraphs 1-47 above.

49. Safran admits that the face of the '700 patent shows it is titled "Method and Device for Monitoring and Analyzing Signals." Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the remainder of the allegations contained in paragraph 49 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

50. Safran admits that the face of the '700 patent shows it was issued on February 9, 2010, and that Plaintiff attached what purports to be a true and correct copy of this patent as Exhibit C to the Complaint. Except as expressly admitted herein, Safran denies the remaining allegations of paragraph 50.

51. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 51.

52. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 52.

53. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 53.

54. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 54.

55. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 55.

COUNT 4:

INFRINGEMENT OF UNITED STATES PATENT NO. 7,346,472

56. In response to paragraph 56 of the Complaint, Safran realleges and incorporates by reference the answers stated in paragraphs 1-55 above.

57. Safran admits that the face of the '472 patent shows it is titled "Method and Device for Monitoring and Analyzing Signals." Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the remainder of the allegations contained in paragraph 57 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

58. Safran admits that the face of the '472 patent shows it was issued on March 18, 2008, and that Plaintiff attached what purports to be a true and correct copy of this patent as Exhibit D to the Complaint. Safran denies that this patent is valid, enforceable, and was duly and legally issued. Safran is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the remainder of the allegations contained in paragraph 58 and, on that basis, denies said allegations.

59. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 59.

60. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 60.

61. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 61.

62. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 62.

63. Safran denies each and every allegation of paragraph 63.

RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S PRAYER FOR RELIEF

64. Safran denies that Plaintiff is entitled to the relief sought, or any other relief.

RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S JURY DEMAND

65. Safran states that Plaintiff's jury demand does not require a response.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

Further answering the Complaint, Safran asserts the following defenses. Safran reserves the right to amend its Answer with additional defenses as further information is determined.

FIRST DEFENSE

(Non-infringement of the Asserted Patents)

66. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

67. Safran has not infringed, contributed to the infringement of, or induced the infringement of any valid claim of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents, and is not liable for infringement thereof.

SECOND DEFENSE

(Invalidity of the Asserted Patents)

68. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

69. One or more claims of each of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents are invalid for

failing to comply with the provisions of the Patent Laws of the United States, including without limitation 35 U.S.C. §§ 101, 102, 103 and/or 112, and Plaintiff's claims for relief are therefore barred.

THIRD DEFENSE

(Lack of Standing to Sue)

70. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

71. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff lacks standing to sue because it does not hold sufficient rights to one or more of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents.

FOURTH DEFENSE

(Equitable Defenses)

72. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

73. Plaintiff's claims for alleged infringement are barred or limited by equitable defenses, such as the laches, waiver, unclean hands, acquiescence, and estoppel.

FIFTH DEFENSE

(Implied License and Exhaustion)

74. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

75. Plaintiff's Complaint is precluded, in whole or in part, to the extent that any allegedly infringing products or components are supplied, directly or indirectly, to Safran or are imported, sold by, offered for sale by, made by, or made for, an entity or entities having express or implied licenses to the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents.

SIXTH DEFENSE

(Unavailability of Relief)

76. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

77. Plaintiff has failed to plead and meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 271(b) and (c) and is not entitled to any alleged damages prior to providing any actual notice to Safran of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents.

SEVENTH DEFENSE

(Adequate Remedy at Law)

78. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

79. Plaintiff's claims for injunctive relief are barred in light of the fact that Plaintiff has an adequate remedy at law.

EIGHTH DEFENSE

(Unavailability of Enhanced Damages)

80. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

81. Plaintiff has failed to plead and meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 284 and 285 for increased damages and attorneys' fees and is not entitled to any alleged damages prior to providing any actual notice to Safran of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents.

NINTH DEFENSE

(Limitation on Damages)

82. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

83. Plaintiff's claims for damages, if any, against Safran for alleged infringement of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents are limited by 35 U.S.C. §§ 286, 287, and/or 288.

TENTH DEFENSE

(Failure to Mark)

84. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

85. Plaintiff's claims for damages are barred or limited due to failure by Plaintiff to allege compliance with, and failure to comply with, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 287.

ELEVENTH DEFENSE

(Prosecution History Estoppel)

86. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

87. To the extent that Plaintiffs attempt to assert infringement under the doctrine of equivalents, Safran believes that arguments and amendments contained in the prosecution history of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents will estop or bar any claims for alleged infringement.

TWELFTH DEFENSE

(Lack of Venue)

88. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 65 of its Answer.

89. Venue is neither proper nor convenient in this District.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Safran respectfully prays for the entry of judgment as follows:

- A. Dismissing with prejudice any and all claims of Plaintiff's Complaint and ordering that Plaintiff takes nothing as a result of the Complaint;
- B. Judging the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents and their claims invalid;
- C. Judging the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents and their claims unenforceable;
- D. Judging that Safran has not and does not infringe, directly or indirectly, induce infringement of, or contribute to the infringement of, any valid and enforceable claim of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents
- E. That Plaintiff be denied any remedies available under 35 U.S.C. § 284;
- F. That the Court denies Plaintiff any injunctive relief;
- G. That the Court denies Plaintiff any other relief as to the First through Fourth Claims for Relief;
- H. Finding that this is an exceptional case and awarding Safran its attorneys' fees as the prevailing party pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285;
- I. That the Court award Safran its costs of suit; and
- J. That the Court award such further relief as deemed just and proper.

SAFRAN'S COUNTERCLAIMS

90. Counterclaimant Safran hereby submits these counterclaims pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 13 and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 89 of its Answer.

91. There is an actual controversy between Safran and Plaintiff regarding non-infringement, validity, and/or unenforceability of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents because Plaintiff has asserted that Safran infringes the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents.

92. This is an action for declaratory relief brought under the Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201 *et seq.* This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of these counterclaims under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338, and 1367.

93. Safran is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 2850 Safran Drive, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052.

94. Upon information and belief, Plaintiff is a Texas limited liability corporation with its principal place of business at 1820 Shiloh Road, Suite 1201-C, Tyler, Texas 75703.

95. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Plaintiff at least because Plaintiff submitted itself to this Court's personal jurisdiction by suing Safran and the other Defendants in this Court.

96. Venue for these counterclaims is proper in this Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1391 and under the doctrine of pendant venue because these counterclaims are closely related to the claims set forth in the Complaint.

FIRST COUNTERCLAIM

(Invalidity)

97. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 90-96 of its Answer and Counterclaims.

98. The claims of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents are invalid for failure to meet the requirements of one or more sections of 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 *et seq.*

99. The claims of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents are invalid for failing to comply with the provisions of the Patent Laws of the United States, including without limitation 35 U.S.C. §§ 101, 102, 103 and/or 112.

SECOND COUNTERCLAIM

(Non-infringement)

100. Safran incorporates by reference paragraphs 90-96 of its Answer and Counterclaims.

101. Safran has not infringed and is not infringing, either directly or indirectly, any

valid and enforceable claim of any of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Safran respectfully prays for the entry of judgment as follows:

- A. Judging the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents and their claims invalid;
- B. Judging the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents and their claims unenforceable;
- C. Judging that Safran has not and does not infringe, directly or indirectly, induce infringement of, or contribute to the infringement of, any valid and enforceable claim of the '175, '494, '700, or '472 patents.
- D. Finding that this is an exceptional case and awarding Safran its reasonable costs of suit and attorneys' fees pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 285; and
- E. That the Court award such further relief as deemed just and proper.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Safran hereby demands trial by jury on all issues.

Dated: April 3, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

/s/ Daniel Johnson, Jr.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been served on all counsel of record via the Court's Case Management/Electronic Case Filing system and/or electronic mail on April 3, 2013.

/s/ Daniel Johnson, Jr.
Daniel Johnson, Jr.